(c) what are the different tribal and backward areas where steps have been taken to develop horticulture with that Central allocation; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a), (c) and (d) The ongoing Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes for horticulture development implemented through State Governments are production oriented and not area specific. However, to give a focused attention for development of Horticulture in Tribal/Backward Areas during 9th Plan, it is proposed to implement a Pilot Project for integrated Development of Horticulture in Hilly/Tribal Areas. The Scheme is yet to be approved by the Government.

(b) the funds released to Orissa under the on-going central sector/centrally sponsored horticulture development schemes during the last 3 years is given below:—

Year	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	407.63
1996-97	640.10
1997-98	754.03

In addition, the National Horticulture Board has also provided financial support to the State of Orissa for demand based projects/programmes as per details given below:—

(Rs. in lakh)

	Grant-in-aid	Soft Loan	Total
1995-96	15.80	41.05	56.85
1996-97	—	101.70	101.70
1997-98	5.00	—	5.00

Import of Onions

496. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Ministry received any request from the Commerce Ministry to take steps through NAFED to import onions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of Food Grains

497. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production of wheat, paddy and pulses in the country, State-wise, alongwith the total shortfall/excess production;

(b) if there is a shortfall, what steps are being taken to increase the production;

(c) what is the percentage of exports of these products both in terms of value and quantity; and

(d) what steps are being taken to control prices of these commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) A statement giving State-wise production of wheat, rice and pulses for the last three years (1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98) is annexed as statement (*See* below).

(b) In order to increase the production and productivity of various foodgrains in the country, the Government is implementing crop specific development programmes and schemes in which incentives are provided to farmers for use of quality seeds and location specific hybrid varieties, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation, improved farm

implements. Besides, field demonstrations on farmers holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Government is also providing price and market support to the farmers by announcing the Minimum Support Prices for major foodgrains crops and making arrangements for the procurement through the nodal agencies. The subsidised supply of fertilisers encourages its consumption for maintaining growth of foodgrains production.

(c) The quantity and value of exports of wheat, rice and pulses are as follows:—

Exports in 1997-98

	Quantity (in thousand tonnes)	Value (in Rs. crores)	Value% To total exports
Wheat	1.56	13.24	Negligible
Rice	2303.59	3274.73	2.59
Pulses	160.18	354.74	0.28

(d) In order to meet the shortages and control the prices of foodgrains, the Government has an elaborate mechanism of procurement, creation of buffer of stock, and its release through the public distribution system. The foodgrains are also imported in the event of likely shortages and control of prices. The import of pulses is kept under Open General License at reduced duty.

Statement

Statewise Production of Wheat

State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (ADV)
Andhra Pradesh	7.8	6.3	6
Assam	95.1	117.1	105
Bihar	4238.9	4610.5	3992
Gujarat	1123.5	1336	1495
Haryana	729.1	7832	7300
Himachal Pradesh	537.1	531	600
Jammu & Kashmir	399.2	408.8	400
Karnataka	145.6	190.1	199
Madhya Pradesh	6666.6	7383.5	7417
Maharashtra	897.7	116.7	668
Orissa	6.1	6.6	7
Punjab	1251.8	1367.9	13200
Rajasthan	5493.3	6776.1	6457
Uttar Pradesh	21515.6	24331.6	23500
West Bengal	725.3	839	900
Others	136.6	60.1	138
ALL INDIA	62097.4	69274.7	66384

Statewise Production of Rice

State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (ADV)
Andhra Pradesh	9014.2	9900.2	8043
Assam	3390	3328.2	3613
Bihar	6640	7236.4	7089
Gujarat	826.6	946	1042
Haryana	1847	2466	2385
Himachal Pradesh	111.2	108.6	110
Jammu & Kashmir	508.5	431.4	615
Karnataka	3023.9	3148	3169
Kerala	953	837.8	1125
Madhya Pradesh	5839.1	6200.9	5695
Maharashtra	2562.8	2614.4	2424
Orissa	6226.2	4375.5	6351
Punjab	6768	7338	7904

Rajasthan	117.6	174.2	190
Tamil Nadu	5290	6060.8	7356
Uttar Pradesh	10362.5	11773.4	12183
West Bengal	11887	12636.8	12600
Others	1607.7	1735.7	1650
ALL INDIA	76975.3	81312.3	83524

Production (Thousand Tonnes)

Statewise Production of Total Pulses

State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (ADV)
Andhra Pradesh	711.2	768.4	562
Assam	57.1	68.4	73
Bihar	560.7	612.8	666
Gujarat	456.8	663.4	781
Haryana	412.4	342.8	440
Himachal Pradesh	10.7	11.4	33
Jammu & Kashmir	15.9	17	22
Karnataka	688.1	669.1	485
Kerala	14.6	14.6	19
Madhya Pradesh	3097.7	3715.4	3376
Maharashtra	1639.2	2036.8	1381
Orissa	431.1	298.9	384
Punjab	84	80.8	97
Rajasthan	1455.8	1875.7	1908
Tamil Nadu	233.1	410.2	391
Uttar Pradesh	2189.3	2664	2231
West Bengal	141.1	155.6	173
Others	51.1	54.5	53
ALL INDIA	12309.0	14459.8	13075

Losses due to floods and rains in Southern States

498. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total estimated loss of life and property in Southern States of India during the recent floods and rains, State-wise;

(b) what steps are being taken to give assistance to these States;

(c) whether any fact finding team has been sent to Tamil Nadu to assess the damage due to floods; and

(d) what will be the total estimate of assistance to Tamil Nadu from Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The damage due to rains/floods in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala during South-West Monsoon period, as reported by the States, is indicated below:—

State	Cropped area damaged (in lakh ha.)	Damage to huts/ Houses (in No.)	Human lives lost (in No.)
Andhra Pradesh	0.23	1	51
Karnataka	6.07	128402	310
Kerala	1.13	17563	138

(b) The entire Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 1998-99 has been released to Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala. The Memoranda received from these States are in various states of processing.

(c) and (d) No such team has been sent as no report on damage due to floods has been received from the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Production of Major Crops

499. SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: